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stating that there is nothing for an enquiry. It has been stated as clearly as possible and the facts are there. What more is required?"

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" We are concerned with the reply given by the Hon. Minister on the floor of the House. From that reply, we understand that the allegations are not correct. How is it possible for anybody to say who is responsible but it is a surprise to hear the Hon. Premier say that the facts are there?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Sir, everything is very fair; what is the good of questioning about it again and again? The facts are there, and merely because all these answers are given in a particular form, it should not be taken that they are wrong."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" May I know whether any clerk belonging to the District Board has complained to anybody that the Secretary has collected subscription for the 'Dravida Nadu' paper or any other paper?"

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—" I have no information, Sir."

Irrigation schemes in South Arcot.

* 75 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of major and minor irrigation works in the South Arcot district;

(*b*) whether any major irrigation schemes have been investigated in the past years, and if so, what they are;

(*c*) whether any of them have been kept in abeyance or abandoned on the ground for want of adequate return;

(*d*) whether investigation for impounding the waters of the South Pennar was made in recent years, and if so, what the particulars of the scheme are; and

(*e*) whether the Government propose to undertake this scheme or any other scheme to provide more irrigation facilities in South Arcot district?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—" (*a*) There are seven irrigation systems classed as 'major' and six classed as 'minor' in the South Arcot district. In addition there are 404 minor works (tanks and channels) in charge of the Public Works Department.

" (*b*) Yes. The following major irrigation schemes have been investigated in the past :—

(1) Kaliveli swamp reclamation;
(2) Thambipettai odai project;
(3) construction of reservoirs on the Mani nadhi, Muktha nadhi and Gomukhi;
(4) damming the South Pennar and diverting the waters into the Manimuktha nadhi;

(5) Thennel project;

(6) Gidangal project;

(7) reservoir on Pennar in North Arcot limits to benefit portions of North Arcot and South Arcot;

(8) excavation of a right side channel from Vadakkanandal anicut on the Gomukhi (since carried out); and

(9) diversion dam across Mani nadhi for extension of irrigation.

"(c) All the schemes except item 8 were dropped previously not only on account of poor return but also owing to doubts as to availability of water supplies for the schemes.

"(d) A preliminary examination was made of a proposal same as item 7 of answer to clause (b) to impound the waters of the South Pennar involving the construction of a reservoir at Sathanur in Tiruvannamalai taluk for bringing under irrigation about 75,000 acres in the North Arcot and the South Arcot districts. The scheme was dropped as there was doubt about supply being available, after meeting the requirements of existing irrigation under the river.

"(e) With a view to take up the Sathanur scheme, if possible, the Government have called for a report from the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) who is re-examining it. He has promised to investigate the scheme in detail, if adequate supply is found available. The Chief Engineer's report is awaited. Besides the Sathanur scheme, the following schemes will also be undertaken if the result of their preliminary investigation which is proposed to be made, proves favourable:—

(1) Thambipettai odai project;

(2) reservoirs on the Mani nadhi, Muktha nadhi and Gomukhi; and

(3) reclamation of Kaliveli swamp in a modified form."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"What about the scheme for impounding the waters in the South Pennar? Has it been definitely abandoned?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—"As stated already a report has been called for in the matter."

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

* MR. PRESIDENT :—"Before going to the next item on the agenda, I would like to take the House into confidence as to what I propose to do with regard to the general discussion on the Budget beginning from to-morrow. Hon. Members are aware that we have got four days this time and that means twenty hours. Ignoring four hours for question time, we have got only 5-40 p.m.